

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 7/18/61

Week Ending 7/17/61

WEATHER Cool weather prevailed across Nebraska with temperatures averaging about six degrees below normal. Precipitation was heaviest in the Panhandle and eastern third of the State, occurring Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Amounts ranged from one to three inches in the Panhandle and mostly from one-half to two inches locally through the eastern section. Hail was locally heavy in the north-central section. The north-central and parts of the southwest and central sections had the least with most stations having less than 1/4 inch.

CROPS Harvest of wheat moved ahead rapidly during the past week although interrupted by showers in the eastern part of the State and heavy downpours in the western and northeastern areas. At the close of the week, approximately 68 percent of the crop had been harvested as compared with 46 percent at this time a year earlier. Warm, dry weather is needed in the western area so that harvest can proceed at a normal pace. Yields and test weights are turning out lower than anticipated, caused by a combination of factors, including black stem rust and high temperatures. Harvest of oats made good progress in the eastern part of the State with about 40 percent of the crop in the bin. Locally, oats was hurt by high temperatures, although rains were beneficial to the late crop.

Weather conditions were ideal for the plant development of corn and sorghums. Some of the early fields of corn are starting to tassel. Hail caused some damage to growing crops particularly in the northeastern part of the State as well as in the west and local areas of southern counties. Corn root worm is causing extensive damage to the crop in central and southern counties.

Sugar beets, dry beans and potatoes in the upper Platte Valley made excellent growth and the frequent showers enabled farmers to conserve the limited supply of irrigation water. Continued rains in that area will be of material benefit in conserving reservoir supplies.

Harvest of the second cutting of alfalfa moved ahead rapidly in the central and eastern part of the State. Generally, yields were good and quality was excellent. Pasture and range feed in the northwest part of the State is extremely short, along with stock water supplies. Elsewhere, range and pasture feed is adequate for livestock needs but the high temperatures caused it to cure prematurely in some areas. Harvest of wild hay is underway with yields running lower than a year earlier.

LIVESTOCK Marketings of livestock from the dry areas in the northwest counties have been limited, but ranchers will need to balance herds with their supply of feed. Contracting of feeder cattle for fall delivery has been slow. Lower temperatures have been favorable for good gains in weight for both cattle and hogs.

The number of feeder cattle and calves shipped into the State during June was 59,000 head, 12 percent above the corresponding month in 1960. Sheep and lambs shipped into Nebraska totaled 24,000 head in June this year, approximately the same as last June. For the first half of 1961, inshipments of cattle and calves numbered 482,000 head, 30 percent above the six-month period in 1960. First half arrivals of sheep and lambs were 112,000 head which was 35 percent below the January-June 1960 number.

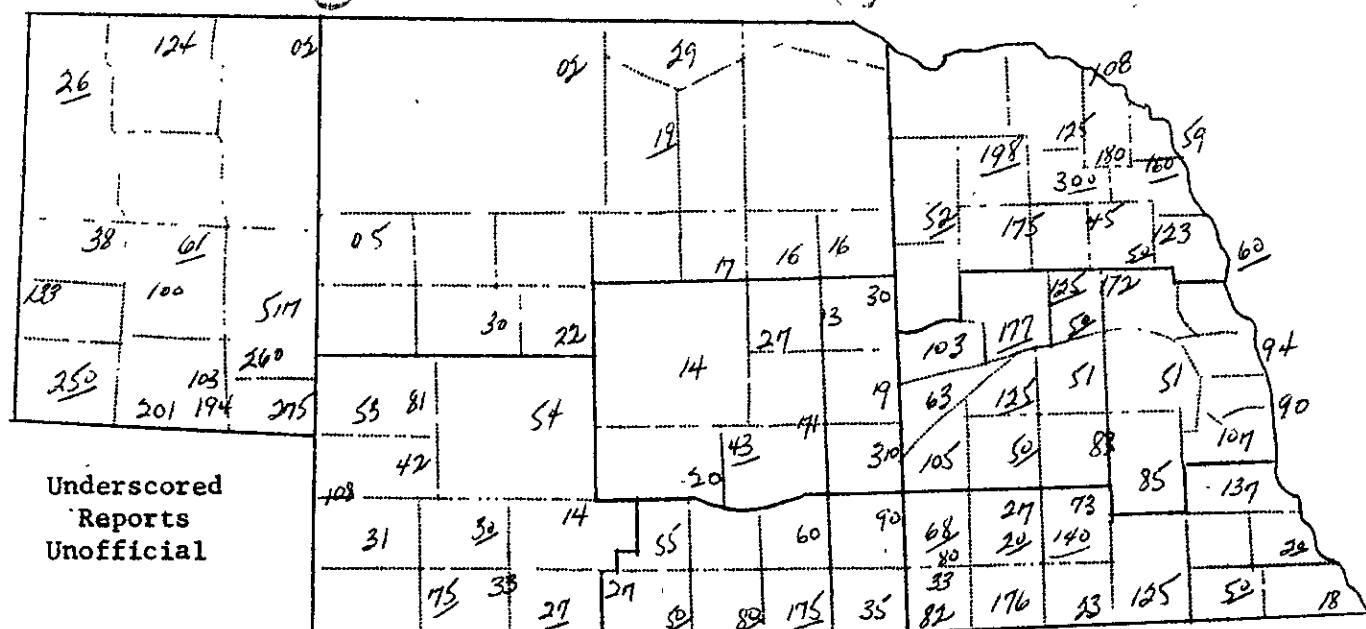
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 17, 1961

East		Central		West	
Grand Island	3.10	Burwell	.16	Chadron	.32
Lincoln	.85	North Platte	.54	Imperial	.24
Norfolk	1.90	Valentine	.02	Scottsbluff	.25
Omaha	.94			Sidney	1.01
Sioux City	.99				

Precipitation, April 1 - July 14, 1961

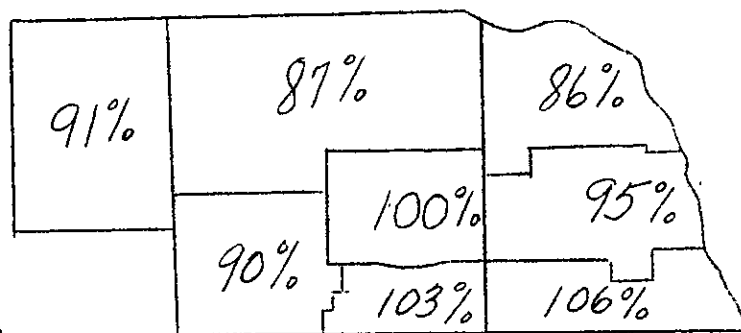
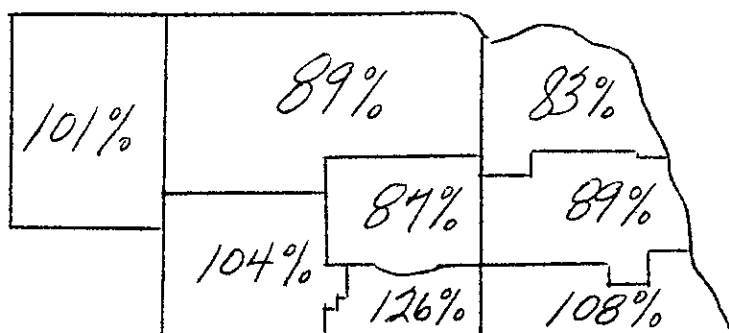
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.86	.15	1.16	.63	.91	.63	.53	.74
Total since April 1	9.59	8.62	9.57	12.53	11.23	9.65	14.49	15.01
Long-time Avg. since April 1	8.61	9.96	11.48	10.82	11.87	9.23	10.93	12.91

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 14, 1961



PRECIPITATION Jan.-June 1961
as percent of long-term mean

PRECIPITATION July 1960-June 1961
as percent of long-term mean



November 1960 through February 1961, April and June 1961 were dry months in Nebraska. Precipitation was above the long-term mean throughout the State in March and May 1961.

HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:01 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:00 a.m. CST)

		July 11th		12th		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	88	60	76	54	75	50	80	45	89	49	94	53	96	65
	Scottsbluff	88	59	74	54	76	53	76	52	86	56	91	56	94	61
	Sidney	83	59	74	52	76	53	75	55	83	56	88	55	91	55
NC	Burwell	88	57	76	54	84	54	83	48	90	51	87	53	97	--
	Valentine	90	61	77	50	83	56	80	44	89	52	89	55	95	56
NE	Norfolk	88	60	81	64	81	61	82	54	88	60	80	57	94	60
	Sioux City	83	65	82	66	80	64	80	57	81	56	80	58	89	65
CEN	Grand Island	90	63	89	61	84	59	83	61	87	60	87	61	95	58
EC	Lincoln	85	70	86	65	80	64	76	62	87	66	88	61	92	63
	Omaha	81	63	84	64	73	63	75	58	82	61	80	59	86	63
SW	Imperial	87	62	81	57	82	63	78	59	86	55	91	56	97	54
	North Platte	87	61	75	51	83	56	79	53	85	57	87	56	96	57

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